

Established as a nonprofit in 1922, the YMCA of Glendale is dedicated to strengthening community by fostering social responsibility, healthy living, and youth development. Over the last century, the YMCA of Glendale has focused special attention to meeting the needs of underserved populations. Its caring staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that people from all backgrounds, incomes and abilities can grow, learn, and thrive together.

The YMCA of Glendale is also a strong advocate for healthy living. In addition to hosting in-person classes—including tai chi, swimming, dance, and yoga—it has also expanded their online wellness resources, making fitness, nutrition, and mindfulness tools even more accessible.

The YMCA includes thousands of members and provides programs across the age spectrum, from childcare for infants to its Silver Sneakers program for active older adults. The YMCA has focused on youth programs and since its inception, has been one of the leading nonprofit agencies providing youth services in Glendale. In addition to educational and athletic services for young members, they also host two summer camps in the greater Los Angeles area, serving over 1,500 campers. By promoting leadership and establishing the four core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility, children and teenagers are equipped with skills that will last them a lifetime.

The YMCA of Glendale has also been a leader in creating international bonds. Recently, the organization established an official "Sister YMCA relationship" with the Artsakh YMCA—the first of its kind for both chapters. Together they hope to provide technical assistance and training, promote cross-cultural understanding, and effect positive change in shared communities.

I am proud to recognize the YMCA's immense contribution to the community and sustained efforts to build healthy bodies, minds, and spirits. I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the YMCA of Glendale upon its centennial anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF INDEPENDENCE FOR THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the 31st anniversary of the Day of Restoration of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan on October 18th.

It has been 31 years since Azerbaijan restored the country's independence on October 18, 1991, with the Constitutional Act of State Independence of Azerbaijan—an event that ended more than seven decades of Soviet rule.

Azerbaijan is a key global security partner for the United States, cooperating on multiple fronts from fighting against terrorism and drug trafficking, to preventing nuclear proliferation, to working towards stabilization in the region. It is also worth noting that Azerbaijani troops

were among the last partner militaries to leave Kabul airport, facilitating the evacuation until the very end. Azerbaijan has also been a key player in providing global energy security in the wake of Russian aggression against Ukraine and continues to be a major energy supplier for our mutual ally, Israel.

Furthermore, as the world watches the Russian invasion of Ukraine, it is worth noting that Azerbaijan has provided significant humanitarian aid to Ukraine, an exception among former Soviet non-NATO countries that led Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to publicly thank the President of Azerbaijan for this courageous step.

As a co-chair of Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Day of Restoration of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan. I believe we will continue to work with them to advance our partnership which benefits both the U.S. and Azerbaijan. I look forward to further collaboration between our two nations.

HOMETOWN HERO—NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two students from Texas' 24th District who recently participated in Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra (NYO) program, a significant achievement for young musicians.

After being accepted to this extremely competitive program, Diego Pena of Southlake, Texas and Neha Bharadwaj of Irving, Texas convened with some of the brightest young instrumentalists in the country for intensive training in New York.

They then joined their respective ensembles on tours to some of the great musical capitals around the world, serving as cultural ambassadors and promoting peaceful relations through music.

On behalf of our entire community, I'd like to thank Diego and Neha for representing North Texas across the world. Through their unmatched talent, they brought incredible music around the globe and made our community immensely proud.

HONORING THE LIFE OF VIRGINIA S. EATON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2022

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Virginia Eaton, an esteemed doctor, a beloved wife and mother, and a cherished community member of the Central Valley.

Virginia was born on April 23, 1923, to Dorothy and Walter Stammer. Born and raised in Fresno, CA, she was an accomplished pianist during her childhood and eventually attended Fresno High School. Upon her graduation, Virginia decided to leave the Central Valley to attend the prestigious Stanford University

where she graduated with honors, earning a degree in biology in just three years. Virginia then continued her academic journey at USC Medical School in 1943, which she graduated from at the age of 23 as the only woman in her class. Upon completion of medical school, Virginia kickstarted her career in pediatrics by completing an internship and residency at Los Angeles Children's Hospital before returning to Fresno.

Back home, she worked as a pediatrician in private practice and met Lewis S. Eaton whom she married in 1950. Following the birth of their first son, William, Virginia moved her practice to the Fresno County Public Health Department where she traveled to various rural farm and Native American communities that lacked access to resident pediatricians. She worked tirelessly for these communities until her two youngest children, Joan and John, went off to college, prompting Virginia to begin working for the Central Valley Regional Center in 1974. Here, Virginia was a pioneer in using genetics to help diagnose and assist children with developmental disabilities and continued her good work at the Central Valley Regional Center until her retirement at the age of 78.

Virginia's passion for medicine never wavered and she often shared her sage expertise with loved ones far beyond her career; however, she also possessed many other talents and interests. Sharing a fascination of the arts with her husband Lewis, the couple collected many paintings, sculptures, and poetry, supported and befriended several local Fresno artists, and were instrumental in the founding of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum. Virginia was also very influential within the River Parkway Trust which established the Lewis S. Eaton Trail following his passing in 1992. Virginia served on the Fresno County Planning Commission as well where she carried out her commitment to improve her community. Appropriately, her efforts and generosity were recognized with Fresno State's highest non-degree award, the President's Medal of Distinction.

In addition to these accomplishments, Virginia will be remembered for her love of reading, gardening, collecting antiques, raising desert tortoises, and attending San Joaquin Valley Town Hall and Fresno Philharmonic. She is survived by her three children and their spouses, her six grandchildren, her siblings Joan Diehl and Walter Stammer, and will be remembered forever by the countless patients and community members whose lives she touched.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Virginia Eaton. Mrs. Eaton lived an exceptional life and used her talents and passions to make her community a better place. May we continue to be inspired by her story.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF JERRY BROOKS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clemmons Fire Chief Jerry Brooks on his upcoming retirement from an incredible career protecting the residents of Clemmons, North Carolina.